

Provisional Early Childhood Education Certificate - birth through age eight

1. By the 2009-2010 school year, either a provisional or a standard early childhood education certificate will be required for individuals teaching in public school infant/toddler, preschool and kindergarten programs, except as provided in R7-2-610 or in R7-2-613(O). This certificate is optional, but recommended by the Board, for individuals teaching in grades 1 - 3.
2. This certificate is valid for two years and is not renewable.
3. The requirements are:
 - a. A Bachelor's degree; and
 - b. One of the following:
 - i. Completion of a teacher preparation program in early childhood education from an accredited institution or a teacher preparation program approved by the Board; or
 - ii. Early childhood education coursework and practicum experience which teaches the knowledge and skills described in R7-2-602 and includes both of the following:
 - (1) 37 semester hours of early childhood education courses to include all of the following areas of study:
 - a. foundations of early childhood education;
 - b. child guidance and classroom management;
 - c. characteristics and quality practices for typical and atypical behaviors of young children;
 - d. child growth and development, including health, safety and nutrition
 - e. child, family, cultural and community relationships
 - f. developmentally appropriate instructional methodologies for teaching language, math, science, social studies and the arts;
 - g. early language and literacy development;
 - h. assessing, monitoring and reporting progress of young children; and
 - (2) 8 semester hours of practicum, in which experience in 2 of 3 different age levels is included: Infant/Toddler (birth – 3 years), preschool/kindergarten (3 – 5 years), or grades 1 – 3. Two years of verified teaching experience with children birth – age 8 or grade 3 in a school-based education program or DHS licensed child care center-based program may substitute for the practicum; or
 - iii. A current early childhood education certificate from another state.
 - c. A valid Fingerprint Clearance Card issued by Arizona DPS, and
 - d. A passing score on the professional knowledge portion of the Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessment; and
 - e. A passing score on the early childhood subject knowledge portion of the Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessment once that portion of the AEPA is adopted by the Board.

J. Standard Early Childhood Education Certificate - birth through age eight

1. By the 2009-2010 school year, either a provisional or a standard early childhood education certificate will be required for individuals teaching in public school infant/toddler, preschool and kindergarten programs, except as provided in R7-2-610 or in R7-2-613(O). This certificate is optional, but recommended by the Board, for individuals teaching in grades 1 - 3.
2. This certificate is valid for six years.
3. The requirements are:
 - a. Qualification for the Provisional Early Childhood Education Certificate, except as provided in R7-2-612(J)(3); and
 - b. Two years of verified teaching experience with children birth through age eight or grade three in a school-based education program or DHS-licensed child care center-based program.
4. An individual may also qualify for a standard Early Childhood Education Certificate if the individual:
 - a. Holds current National Board Certification in Early Childhood; and
 - b. Holds a valid fingerprint Clearance Card issued by DPS.